

Universities Supporting Victims of Sexual Violence (USVSV): Training for Sustainable Student Services

Final Report of the USVreact Project

The Applicant:

Brunel University London , UK.

Partners :

Partner 1 Associacio Per La Creacion D'estudis I Projectes Socials, Spain

Partner 2 Panteion University Of Social And Political Sciences, Greece

Partner 3 Sussex University, UK

Partner 4 Universidad Del Pais Vasco (upv), Spain

Partner 5 Universita Degli Studi Di Torino (unito), Italy

Partner 6 Universitat Rovira I Virgili (urv), Spain

Partner 7 University Of York, UK

Associate Partners:

Associate Partner 1 University of West of England, UK

Associate Partner 2 Lancaster University, UK

Associate **Partner 3 Victimology Society of Serbia (VDS)**

Associate Partner 4 Universidad de Barcelona, Spain

Associate Partner 5 Mondragon University, Spain

Associate Partner 6 MARTA, Latvia

Associate Partner 7 St Mary's Twickenham London (SMTL), UK

Project description:

OBJECTIVES

- To develop learning from research and best practice in university sexual violence policies/care pathways and 'firstresponse' training in partner countries
- To create national and international networks of experts, specialist agencies, students'union and university staff in order to build and share knowledge
- To deliver innovative 'first response' training in universities that enables staff to treat victims sensitively and refer appropriately
- To embed 'first response' models making training institutionally sustainable
- To evaluate training and share findings among partners and widely, nationally and internationally

ACTIVITIES

- Research (preaction): investigate policies and sexual violence (SV) care pathways in partner institutions and others, collate examples of best practice in 'first responder' training
- Training: 1) design innovative bespoke training for those university stafflikely to be 'first responders' to SV disclosures, 2) train 80 staff per institution, including 810 to become trainers themselves,3) develop sustainable training models in each institution with resources to support trainees in cascading learning to colleagues
- Research (postaction): 1) evaluation by partners of the training in their institution (&1 other); 2) metaanalysis of evaluations by PI & Col to identify success factors, obstacles, and other learning
- Dissemination: 1) share information on successful models with university managers, specialist agencies and policymakers via local networks; 2) publish findings to universities in partner countries (local languages)
- Legacy: create a sustainable online network of international academics and specialist agencies working on SV in or beyond universities, especially 'first response' training.

TYPE AND NUMBER OF PERSONS BENEFITING FROM THE PROJECT

In each partner university:

(potential) victims of sexual violence

staff trained to respond (80) (e.g. 15 students' union bar staff; 10 residential advisors; 10 security staff; 5 student advisors; 10 counsellors; 15 academics; 10 academic support staff; 5 librarians)

additional staff as the training is cascaded post project

Staff Development unit/inhouse training supported to develop a new, externally advised course
Plus staff and students at other universities (nationally & internationally) who can develop their own training and first response/care pathways using the projects' models, resources and findings.

EXPECTED RESULTS

- A report of existing university policy frameworks and care pathways on sexual and gendered violence, and an analysis of best practice in 'first responder' training (in universities and elsewhere), across 12 European countries
- Successful delivery of 'first response' training in 12 institutions to 80 staff in each, with 810 staff readied to train others
- Piloting & evaluating these training models in partner/AP institutions, and metaanalysis of evaluations
- Improved relations between partner universities and their local victims' services
- An international network for academics, practitioners and specialist agencies
- Better support and referral of students who experience SV, through new training embedded in 12 universities and good practice shared with many universities

TYPE AND NUMBER OF OUTPUTS

- Briefing paper on university care pathways (1, in partner languages)
- Online network for academics and specialist agencies (1)
- Package of training materials (8, in local, plus AP, languages)
- Evaluation reports on training interventions (7 partners, in local languages)
- Metaanalysis of evaluations (1, translated into all partner languages)
- Final project report (1, translated into partner/AP languages: Greek, Italian, Spanish, Serbian)
- Academic presentations and articles about training/evaluation (1+ per partner, English or local languages)
- Briefing paper about findings for universities, national student bodies and specialist agencies (1).